

**CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD**

**584<sup>th</sup> BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**DAY 1, THURSDAY, 8 DECEMBER 2022, 1:00 P.M.**

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**BOARD MEETING LOCATION**

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Zoom Teleconference and Webcast  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
1001 I Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Coastal Hearing Room  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

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Avdis, Nick (Virtual)	Kadara, Denise
Brar, Raji (Virtual)	Lee Reeder, Elena
Bradford, Mark	Yang, Sean

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**STATE WATER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

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Morgan, Nichole

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**STATE WATER BOARD OFFICE OF CHIEF COUNSEL PRESENT**

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Jahr, Jessica	Okun, Lori
Moskal, Christopher	Wadhvani, Emel

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**REGIONAL BOARD STAFF PRESENT**

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Alfving, Cameron	Garver, Kelli	Pulupa, Patrick
Armstrong, Scott	Gomes, Kristen	Pyle, Jeffrey
Asami, Rebecca	Goode, Danielle	Richter, Matthew
Baum, JJ	Gotham, Stacy	Rodgers, Clay
Boone, Matthew	Harvey, Dale	Ross, Adriana
Bosenko, Marissa	Hatton, Scott	Schroeder, Jason
Busby, Rob	Jimmerson, Dania	Sewalia, Sid
Burger, Kate	Jones, Leah	Smith, Bryan
Chow, Bob	Laputz, Adam	Snyder, Clint
Cole, Selina	Maxwell, Mindy	Walters, Anne
Coster, Lynn	Mulholland, Soapy	Wilson, Angela
Coughlin, Gene	Mushegan, Alex	
Dailey, Hannah	Palmer, Josh	
Durette, David	Perea, Griffin	

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## **ADDITIONAL IDENTIFIED ATTENDEES**

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Armas-Kelly, Martha  
Atume, Ngodoo  
Bourdon, Yao  
Camacho, Juan  
Cativiela, J.P.

Evanko, Hillary  
Healy, Erin  
Klassen, Perry  
Kretzinger, Vicki

Nelson, Marlee  
Osorio, Bryan  
Webster, Debbie (Mackey)  
Will

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## **AGENDA ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER**

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Chair Bradford called the 584<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting to order and made introductions. Executive Officer (EO) Patrick Pulupa introduced staff. Vice Chair Kadara led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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## **AGENDA ITEM 2 – BOARD MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS**

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### **Chair Bradford submitted the following communications:**

- 20 October 2022 – Attended the Northern California Water Association mixer.
- 27/28 October 2022 – Attended the Water Quality Coordinating Committee Meeting.

### **Vice Chair Kadara submitted the following communications:**

- 19 October 2022 – Participated in the State Water Board Racial Equity Action Plan Meeting.
- 24 October 2022 – Participated in the Environmental Justice Consortium for Early Action Plan Implementation Meeting.
- 27/28 October 2022 – Attended the Water Quality Coordinating Committee Meeting.
- 15 November 2022 – Participated in CA Natural Resource Agency Webinar for Native Heritage Month.
- 29 November 2022 – Participated in CA Natural Resource Agency Webinar for Native Heritage Month.
- 6 December 2022 – Participated in the San Joaquin Clean Water Advocate Training for Disadvantaged Communities.

### **Board Member Lee Reeder submitted the following communications:**

- 24 October 2022 – Participated in the Environmental Justice Consortium for Early Action Plan Implementation Meeting.
- 27 October 2022 – Attended the Water Quality Coordinating Committee Meeting.

### **Board Member Avdis submitted the following communication:**

- 27/28 October 2022 – Attended the Water Quality Coordinating Committee Meeting.

- 14 November 2022 – Attended a Tour in Madera County hosted by Sustainable Conservation.

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### **AGENDA ITEM 3 – STATE WATER BOARD LIAISON UPDATE**

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State Water Board Member Nichole Morgan provided the following updates:

#### **Emergency Regulation**

On 7 December 2022, the State Board readopted the Prohibited Wasteful Water Uses Emergency Regulation for Water Conservation.

#### **Sanitary Sewer Systems General Order Reissuance**

- Staff held a public workshop on Monday, 14 November 2022 to provide interested parties an overview of the proposed General Order, including revisions in response to public comments received during the public comment period.
- The State Water Board adopted the proposed General Order at its regularly scheduled Board Meeting on 6 December 2022.

#### **Hydrology and Urban Conservation Update September 2022**

- Statewide water use dropped in September 2022 by 10.9% relative to September 2020, with 4.6% cumulative savings from July 2021 to September 2022, relative to 2020.
- Monthly (September 2022) and cumulative savings by hydrologic region were as follows:
  - o South Lahontan: -18.6%
  - o Colorado River: -14.3%
  - o North Coast: -14.3%
  - o San Francisco Bay: -13.2%
  - o South Coast: -11.9%
  - o North Lahontan: -11.9%
  - o Sacramento River: -10.5%
  - o Central Coast: - 6.6%
  - o San Joaquin River: - 4.2%
  - o Tulare Lake: -1.9%

#### **October 2022**

- Statewide water use dropped in October by 12.5% relative to October 2020, with 5.2% cumulative savings from July 2021 to October 2022, relative to 2020.
- Monthly (October 2022) and cumulative savings by hydrologic region were as follows:
  - o North Coast: -22.6%
  - o South Lahontan: -19.4%

- o San Francisco Bay: -15.7%
- o South Coast: -14.4%
- o Central Coast: -10.1%
- o Sacramento River: -8.9%
- o San Joaquin River: -8.3%
- o Colorado River: -4.6%
- o North Lahontan: -3.4%
- o Tulare Lake: -2.9%

## California's Water Supply Strategy Implementation

California's Water Supply Strategy, published in August 2022, established new 2030 and 2040 goals for water conservation, the production and use of recycled water, brackish groundwater and seawater desalination, and stormwater capture and use as well as specific implementation actions.

- The Water Supply Strategy set a goal to recycle and reuse at least 800,000 AFY by 2030 and 1.8M AFY by 2040. (Section 1.1)
  - o In January 2023, State Water Board staff will convene a recycled water strike team that will be tasked to identify and resolve permitting and funding obstacles for recycled water projects.
  - o State Water Board staff has initiated planning to develop a public digital dashboard to track the permitting and funding status of recycled water projects.
- The Water Supply Strategy set a goal to desalinate at least 28,000 AFY by 2030 and 84,000 AFY by 2040. (Section 1.2)
  - o On November 17th the Coastal Commission voted to approve a coastal development permit to California American Water Company (Cal-Am) for the desalination plant components of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project. The State Water Board, in a letter dated October 25, 2022, asked the Commission to give the Project a full, considered hearing and reiterated that the Board's interest is in Cal-Am's and other regional efforts to develop permanent water supplies that sustain only lawful diversions from the Carmel River.
  - o Staff will convene the Seawater Desalination Interagency Group on a monthly or bi-monthly basis which consists of the State Water Board, California Ocean Protection Council, California Coastal Commission, California State Lands Commission, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Natural Resources Agency, California Department of Water Resources, California State Coastal Conservancy, North Coast, Central Coast, Los Angeles, Santa Ana and San Diego Water Boards, Monterey Bay

National Marine Sanctuary, and National Marine Fisheries Service's West Coast Region.

- The Water Supply Strategy set a goal to capture 250,000 AF of stormwater by 2030 and 500,000 AF by 2040. (Section 2.5)
  - The State Water Board is developing Request for Proposals for a project that will provide an estimate of the volume of stormwater currently captured and used statewide and anticipated an executed a contract for this work in early 2024.
- For the implementation steps associated with the groundwater storage goals, Division of Water Rights permitting staff have prioritized groundwater recharge permits, continue coordinating with the Department of Water Resources on temporary groundwater recharge permits, and have requested staff resources to develop regulations for water availability analyses associated with water right permits. (Section 2.1)
- For the implementation steps associated with the water rights modernization goals, water rights staff are quickly filling new positions, developing contracts for real-time water data collection and supply and demand models and tools, actively implementing, and enforcing current emergency curtailment regulations, and selecting a vendor for the water rights data system rebuild (UPWARD project). (Section 4.3)
- The Water Supply Strategy established goals for efficient water use and conservation. (Section 3.1)
  - On October 19, the Board adopted new water loss performance standards for urban retail water suppliers.
  - The regulation is set to come into effect in April 2023, and it is estimated it will save about 88,000 acre-feet of water per year by requiring suppliers to monitor and reduce leakage from their distribution systems.
  - The performance standards for water loss are one component of the conservation framework established by SB 606 and AB 1668 in 2018. On October 28, the Department of Water Resources delivered the full reports on their recommendations for urban water use efficiency to the State Water Resources Control Board, which were required by SB 606 and AB 1668.

### **Comments from Board Members**

Chair Bradford thanked Ms. Morgan for the liaison report and noted at the last Board Chair's call, executive staff at State Water Board reviewed "Water Rights 101" and he found it to be comprehensive and informative. Chair Bradford further stated he appreciated the Governor's initiative on water supply strategy and the establishment of long-term goals.

EO Pulupa commented he appreciated the report and affirmed Region 5's commitment to support State Water Board efforts to achieve targets under the water supply strategy.

Vice Chair Kadara thanked Ms. Morgan for the comprehensive report.

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#### **AGENDA ITEM 4 – PUBLIC FORUM**

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None

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#### **AGENDA ITEM 5 – EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT**

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Chair Bradford noted prior to each Board Meeting, the EO works with the Executive Assistant and the Board’s Program Managers to compile a report on the status of the Board’s programs and initiatives.

EO Pulupa noted he would be working on revising the Executive Officer’s report beginning with the February 2023 Board Meeting to ensure it was meeting the needs of the Board and remained succinct and meaningful for stakeholders. Chair Bradford commented the report served as a valuable historical record.

#### **Sustained Superior Accomplishment Awards (for superior achievements over a sustained period):**

EO Pulupa presented Sustained Superior Accomplishment Awards to the following staff:

Dania Jimmerson, Water Resources Control Engineer  
Jessica Mullane, Sr. Environmental Scientist

#### **Superior Accomplishment Awards:**

EO Pulupa presented Superior Accomplishment Awards to the following staff (no specific order):

Mathew Boone, Senior Environmental Scientist  
Kate Burger, Senior Engineering Geologist  
Susan Lynn Coster, Senior Environmental Scientist  
David Durette, Senior Water Resources Control Engineer  
Stacy Gotham, Senior Water Resources Control Engineer  
Griffin Perea, Senior Engineering Geologist  
Jason Schroeder, Senior Engineering Geologist  
Meredith Howard, Environmental Program Manager  
Selina Cole, Environmental Scientist  
Andrew Hamilton, Sr. Environmental Scientist, Specialist  
Cameron Alfvig, Environmental Scientist  
Marissa Bosenko, Associate Governmental Program Analyst  
Hannah Dailey, Engineering Geologist  
Jarrod Ramsey-Lewis, Water Resources Control Engineer  
Jordan Hensley, Environmental Scientist  
Robin Merod, Water Resources Control Engineer

Leah Jones, Environmental Scientist  
Nicholas White, Water Resources Control Engineer

### **Questions and Comments from Board Members**

Vice Chair Kadara noted the vacancies (14 Rancho Cordova, 12 Fresno, 4 Redding) and asked how those vacancies impacted current staff. EO Pulupa replied that workplans consider that some vacancies will occur, and that staff and managers have been working diligently to recruit those positions as quickly as possible. The Administrative Unit recently hired a Manager, Maria Lovato, to help fill those vacancies. In terms of vacancy count, it was not unusual to have vacancies due to retirements and promotions.

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### **AGENDA ITEM 6 – ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR BOARD MEETING**

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#### **MOTION TO ADOPT 14 OCTOBER 2022 BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Motioned: Member Nick Avdis  
Seconded: Member Lee Reeder

#### Roll Call Vote:

Member Avdis	Yes
Member Yang	Yes
Member Brar	Abstain
Member Lee Reeder	Yes
Vice Chair Kadara	Yes
Chair Bradford	Yes

Approved by Roll Call Vote of 5-0-1

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### **AGENDA ITEM 7 – ADOPTION OF UNCONTESTED CALENDAR AGENDA ITEMS 8, 11 – 15**

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#### **UNCONTESTED CALENDAR**

(Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, section 647.2, subd. (f).) Uncontested items are those items that are not being contested at the Board Meeting and will be acted on without discussion. If any person or Board Member requests discussion, the item may be removed from the Uncontested Calendar.

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#### **WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS (AGENDA ITEM 11)**

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- a. Chemical Waste Management, Inc., Bakersfield Facility, Kern County – Consideration of Revised Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2011-0046

- b. ~~City of Madera, Madera Wastewater Treatment Facility, Madera County – Consideration of Revised Waste Discharge Requirements. Order No. 95-046~~ **THIS AGENDA ITEM WAS MOVED TO THE CONTESTED CALENDAR ON FRIDAY.**

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#### **NPDES PERMITS (AGENDA ITEM 12)**

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- a. Meridian Beartrack Co., Royal Mountain King Mine, Calaveras County – Consideration of NPDES Permit Renewal (NPDES Permit No. CA0085243)
- b. Linda County Water District, Wastewater Treatment Plant, Yuba County and Sutter County – Consideration of NPDES Permit Renewal (NPDES Permit No. CA0079651) [Will Chen (916) 464-4816] **PREVIOUSLY AGENDA ITEM 8 ON CONTESTED CALENDAR.**

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#### **RESCISSIONS (AGENDA ITEM 13)**

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- a. State of California, Department of Transportation, District 6, Philip S. Raine (Tipton) Safety Roadside Rest Area Wastewater Treatment Facility, Tulare County – Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 83-006
- b. Yolo County Housing Authority, Davis Migrant Center WWTF, Yolo County – Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 5-01-030

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#### **RESCISSIONS (AGENDA ITEM 14)**

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- a. Placer County, Foresthill Class III Landfill, Placer County – Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2005-0069 [Brad Shelton (916) 464-1588]

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#### **CHANGE OF NAME (AGENDA ITEM 15)**

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- a. AuCopious LLC and US Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Zenda Mine, Kern County – Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2014-0138
- b. Foster Poultry Farms, LLC, Foster Poultry Farms Livingston Chicken Processing Complex Wastewater Treatment Plant, Merced County – Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2009-0086
- c. Lehigh Southwest Cement Company and Calaveras Cement Company, Calaveras Cement Plant, Calaveras County – Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2020-0063
- d. Sandridge Partners, L.P. and POM Wonderful, LLC, POM – Buttonwillow, Kern County – Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2012-0099
- e. Sierra Valley Enterprises, Sierra Valley Enterprises Loyalton Campus, Sierra County – Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2002-0174

- f. Vita-Pakt Citrus Products Company, City of Lindsay, Edward and Edna Brower Revocable Trust, Vita-Pakt Lindsay Land Application Area, Tulare County – Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2022-0049

**MOTION TO ADOPT AGENDA ITEM 7 (Uncontested Calendar Items 8, and 11 through 15)**

Motioned: Member Lee Reeder  
Seconded: Vice Chair Kadara

Roll Call Vote:

Member Avdis	Yes
Member Yang	Yes
Member Brar	Yes
Member Lee Reeder	Yes
Vice Chair Kadara	Yes
Chair Bradford	Yes

Approved by Roll Call Vote of 6-0-0

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**AGENDA ITEM 8 – LINDA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, YUBA COUNTY AND SUTTER COUNTY – CONSIDERATION OF NPDES PERMIT RENEWAL (NPDES PERMIT NO. CA0079651)**

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This agenda item was moved to the uncontested calendar.

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**AGENDA ITEM 9 – REGIONAL RACIAL EQUITY RESOLUTION**

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The presentation was given by members of the Regional Racial Equity Team, including Rebecca Asami, Sr. Engineering Geologist (Fresno), Selina Cole, Environmental Scientist (Rancho Cordova), Marisol Gonzalez, Engineering Geologist (Redding), Leah Jones, Environmental Scientist (Rancho Cordova), Sue McConnell, Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer (Rancho Cordova), Adriana Ross, Staff Services Analyst (Fresno), and Sid Sewalia, Water Resource Control Engineer (Rancho Cordova). EO Pulupa began the presentation by stating that addressing racial equity and environmental justice is central to the Central Valley Water Board's mission. EO Pulupa briefly reviewed the Portfolio Management Process and time schedule the Water Quality Programs operate under. Each of the 19 Programs have an assigned Program Manager and Executive Sponsor. Program Managers are responsible for developing work plans to identify objectives for the upcoming year. These annual work plans are developed in December when the Board sets priority projects.

Starting in the summer of 2020, the State Water Board began an effort to address the historical effects of institutional racism by directing staff to develop a priority plan of action. A State Water Board Racial Equity Team was convened, which held public and employee listening sessions to help develop a draft resolution. In November 2021, the State Water Board adopted Resolution No. 2021-0050, "Condemning Racism, Xenophobia, Bigotry, and Racial Injustice

and Strengthening Commitment to Racial Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Access, and Anti-Racism.” The resolution affirmed the State Water Board’s commitment to racial equity and directed staff to undertake a variety of actions, including the development of a Regional Racial Equity Action Plan. The Water Boards are working toward a future where we equitably implement the mission to preserve, protect, and restore drinking water and water resources for all Californians, and where:

- Race no longer predicts the access to or quality of water resources a person receives,
- Race is not a predictor of professional outcomes for our employees, and
- We consistently apply a racial equity lens to our decision-making processes.

Efforts to address racial equity issues in the Central Valley began in 2019. As one of the most diverse regions in the state and faced with enormous challenges related to legacy water quality contamination in disadvantaged communities and communities of color, racial equity trainings for senior managers began in 2019.

As statewide efforts gained momentum in Fall 2020, staff of the Central Valley made (and continue to make) significant contributions to the State Racial Equity Team. Following adoption of the State Racial Equity Resolution, Central Valley convened a Racial Equity Team focused on to developing a Regional Racial Equity Resolution. Over the course of 2022, this team met with Program Managers throughout the region to develop actionable goals for each of the water quality programs to help advance racial equity in the Central Valley.

The Central Valley Water Board, in adopting the proposed Resolution, affirms and endorses the State Water Board Resolution in its entirety.

Marisol Gonzalez gave a background regarding the development of “SMARTIE” goals. SMARTIE is an acronym that stands for Strategic, Measurable, Ambitious, Realistic, Time-bound, Inclusive, and Equitable. By incorporating equity and inclusion components to SMART goals, staff placed additional emphasis on ensuring the commitment to racial equity and inclusion was anchored by tangible and actionable steps. Marisol then gave a description of CalEnviroScreen and AB 2108, a tool and new legislation, respectively, that will affect racial equity efforts in the region.

Adriana Ross provided a description of the Administrative Program and of the Basin Planning program, and described proposed racial equity SMARTIE goals for both. Sue McConnell provided a background of the Board’s Waste Discharge to Land and CV-SALTS Programs, and described proposed racial equity SMARTIE goals for both. Leah Jones described the Water Quality Certifications Program, the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP), and the Mines program, and described proposed racial equity SMARTIE goals for all three. Marisol Gonzalez provided background of the Board’s NPDES and Land Discharge programs and described proposed racial equity SMARTIE goals for both. Rebecca Asami then provided background on the Stormwater, Oilfield, and Compliance and Enforcement Programs, and provided proposed racial equity SMARTIE goals for all three. Selina Cole gave background on the Delta Program, the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program, Confined Animals Program, Cannabis Program, and Forest Activities Programs, and described the proposed SMARTIE goals for all these programs. Sid Sewalia gave background on the Nonpoint Source Program,

Underground Storage Tank Program, and Site Cleanup Program, and described SMARTIE goals for all three.

EO Pulupa concluded the presentation by expressing his gratitude to the Racial Equity Team, Program Managers, Board members, and Vice Chair Kadara for enabling this work to move forward.

### **Questions and Comments from Board Members**

Chair Bradford commented he was impressed with the level of thought that went into the Resolution and was proud staff had already provided an Action Plan for next year, even before the Resolution was adopted. Chair Bradford closed by stating he was looking forward to seeing the public outreach and emphasized the importance of publicizing these efforts.

Member Brar commented she was very proud of staff for this work and thanked Vice Chair Kadara for championing this effort.

Vice Chair Kadara commented she was very proud of the team and commended staff for their efforts. She indicated staff had come a long way in addressing racial equity issues and looked forward to seeing future progress in the program areas.

Member Lee Reeder commented she appreciated the level of outreach and engagement contained in the Racial Equity Resolution. It was not only consistent with the requirements of AB108 but went above and beyond legal requirements. Member Lee Reeder felt the Resolution provided a high level of transparency to the public and provided opportunities for communities to participate in a meaningful way in the decision-making process. These efforts strengthen the goal of clean, safe, and affordable drinking water for all regardless of race. Member Lee Reeder closed by stating she looked forward to seeing the integration of the Resolution's principles in each program area.

Member Yang thanked Vice Chair Kadara for leading the way and stated he felt this important work had the opportunity to change lives and communities. He felt the Resolution was very thorough and offered his sincere thanks to staff for making this effort possible. Member Yang asked if there would be additional staff added for addressing racial equity issues in the future. EO Pulupa replied there was a parallel effort for racial equity staff at State Water Board because they are the responsible agency for requesting positions. However, with the state budget deficit, current efforts were being handled with internal staff. The objective is secure additional resources to further this work.

EO Pulupa stated as a component of the Racial Equity Resolution, staff proposed to convene an Accountability Team that will periodically meet with Program Managers and report back to the Board as part of the August 2023 reporting cycle. This team will ensure meaningful progress is being made in each program area. Members of the Racial Equity Team would be invited to re-apply, except for Sid Sewalia, who recently received a well-deserved promotion. The Board congratulated Sid.

EO Pulupa expressed his gratitude to the Board for supporting staff's efforts to address racial equity issues and felt it sent a very positive message to State Water Board, staff, and the public.

**Staff Recommendation**

EO Pulupa recommended adoption of the Racial Equity Resolution and Priority Projects with late revisions.

**MOTION TO ADOPT AGENDA ITEM 9 – CONSIDERATION OF THE REGIONAL RACIAL EQUITY RESOLUTION AND PROGRAM PRIORITY PROJECTS WITH LATE REVISIONS – CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION**

Motioned: Vice Chair Kadara

Seconded: Member Yang

**Roll Call Vote:**

Member Avdis	Yes
Member Yang	Yes
Member Brar	Yes
Member Lee Reeder	Yes
Vice Chair Kadara	Yes
Chair Bradford	Yes

Approved by Roll Call Vote of 6-0-0

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**AGENDA ITEM 10 – REPORT ON THE PACIFIC WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL – INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY**

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Soapy Mulholland, Stewardship Council Board Member/Region 5 Board Representative, and Erin Healy, Stewardship Council Executive Director, began the presentation.

Ms. Mulholland provided a brief background on her role and the mission and structure of the Stewardship Council. She noted the Council's mission was to protect and enhance 140,000 acres of PG&E's watershed lands and uses and invest in efforts to improve the lives of young Californians through connections with the outdoors.

Ms. Healy continued the presentation and stated the Council was born from the 2001 bankruptcy of PG&E. The 2003 stipulation was that PG&E be provided oversight by a non-profit organization. PG&E watershed lands consisted of 140,000 acres of land, 1,000 parcels located across 22 counties, 96 land transactions, and are grouped into 47 planning units within 9 watershed areas. Ms. Healy reviewed the Fee Title Donees and Conservation Easement Holders. The final land donation will be completed in Q1 of 2023. The Council's progress to date included:

- Board adopted all 96 Land Conservation and Conveyance Plans.

- Closed escrow on 79 land transactions (37 land donations).
- Effectuated transfer and placement of conservation easements on the remaining three properties, and placement of 14 additional conservation easements on the PG&E Watershed Lands.

Ms. Healy further stated approximately \$13.7 million was awarded to projects throughout the watershed project land for habitat restoration, cultural resource protection, and recreational improvements (e.g., trails). A competitive round of proposals was funded in 2022 and the Council will have some in 2023, ending up near a \$15 million funding range. The Council used \$30 million (of the \$100 million) for a youth investment program. A youth organization received approximately \$11 million, which was parlayed into 10 years of grants for grantees in the Bay Area to get youth on those properties. An example was a project called Sky Mountain Camp. \$5 million was allocated to San Joaquin County Office of Education to purchase an old religious camp that was turned it into a science camp for kids in San Joaquin County. The End of Year Program Report on the Project will be incorporated into the Council's Year End Report.

One of the Council's responsibilities was to ensure protection of the properties. By the end of 2023, the Council anticipates having the final conservation easement placed and the Stewardship Council dissolved. Ms. Healy stated the mission of the Stewardship Council will be fulfilled by protecting all the properties and ensuring 40,000 acres were donated to the fee donees. In 2024, a small group of Board Officers will remain to ensure the dissolution is handled correctly, and Soapy Mulholland will be one of those Officers.

Ms. Healy thanked the Board for their continued support and requested the Board continue to support Soapy's involvement until the Council is dissolved. Ms. Healy felt it was very important to have Soapy continue as a key Board Officer.

### **Executive Officer Recommendation**

EO Pulupa recommended supporting Soapy Mulholland's participation in the Council as requested.

### **Questions and Comments from Board Members**

Chair Bradford thanked Ms. Mulholland and Ms. Healy for the thorough presentation and stated it was a great summary of the Council's accomplishments. He especially appreciated the work of getting youth out to these lands and stated the Council had his full support of Ms. Mulholland's continued efforts until the Council was dissolved.

EO Pulupa stated he appreciated the presentation and felt the Stewardship Council embodied racial equity and environmental justice by helping disadvantaged communities, tribal communities, and underserved youth. While these efforts provided additional complexity with legal requirements for sovereign nations and government to government coordination, the Stewardship Council successfully managed those challenges and fulfilled its mission.

Vice Chair Kadara stated she was thankful for the racial equity and disadvantaged community work of the Council. Preserving the land for youth is allowing a new generation of environmental stewards. Vice Chair Kadara felt the work with youth and tribal populations was essential and she was excited about the work that had been accomplished. Vice Chair Kadara affirmed her support of Ms. Mulholland's continued support in 2023/early 2024 as the Council was being dissolved.

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**MEETING ADJOURNED**

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The Board Meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m. to the 9 December 2022 Board Meeting.

**CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD**

**584<sup>th</sup> BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**DAY 2, FRIDAY, 9 DECEMBER 2022, 10:00 A.M.**

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**BOARD MEETING LOCATION**

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Zoom Teleconference and Webcast  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
1001 I Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Coastal Hearing Room  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

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Brar, Raji (Virtual)	Lee Reeder, Elena
Bradford, Mark	Yang, Sean
Kadara, Denise	

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**STATE WATER BOARD OFFICE OF CHIEF COUNSEL PRESENT**

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Jahr, Jessica	Okun, Lori
Moskal, Christopher	Wadhvani, Emel

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**REGIONAL BOARD STAFF PRESENT**

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Armstrong, Scott	Harvey, Dale	Rodgers, Clay
Baum, JJ	Hatton, Scott	Snyder, Clint
Busby, Rob	Laputz, Adam	Walters, Anne
Chow, Bob	Maxwell, Mindy	
Coughlin, Gene	Mushegan, Alex	
Fuller, Jennifer	Pulupa, Patrick	
Goode, Danielle	Pyle, Jeffrey	

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**ADDITIONAL IDENTIFIED ATTENDEES**

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Atume, Ngodoo	Nelson, Marlee	Schuil, Charlotte
Camacho, Juan	Osorio, Bryan	Shane
Catviela, J.P.	Reina, Jenny	Soto, Jose
Cozad, Daniel	Rivers, Kija	Webster, Debbie (Mackey)
Klassen, Perry	Rutherford, Sarah	

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**AGENDA ITEM 16 – CALL TO ORDER**

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Chair Bradford called the 584<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting to order and made introductions. EO Pulupa introduced staff. Member Yang led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**AGENDA ITEM 17 – PUBLIC FORUM**

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None

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**AGENDA ITEM 18 – CV-SALTS PROGRAM UPDATE – UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CENTRAL VALLEY SALT AND NITRATE CONTROL PROGRAM. INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY**

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Anne Walters, Senior Environmental Scientist, Rancho Cordova office, began the presentation and noted Sarah Rutherford, Kaweah Water Foundation, would be co-presenting on behalf of the management zones.

Ms. Walters provided a brief overview of the presentation and noted she would also provide an update on the CV-SALTS Revisions Basin Plan Amendment approved by the Central Valley Water Board two years prior. Next, Ms. Walters stated she would provide an update on the implementation of the Salt Control Program, including efforts related to the Phase One Prioritization and Optimization (P&O) Study. Next, she would transition to the implementation of the Nitrate Control Program. Ms. Rutherford would provide an update on Early Action Plan implementation and other management zone activities. In addition, Ms. Walters stated she would discuss the nexus between the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program's well testing program as part of the Nitrate Control Program. That portion would be followed by review of next steps and a brief enforcement update.

Ms. Walters stated the Salt Control Program and Nitrate Control Program address salt and nitrate contamination in the Central Valley. The Nitrate Control Program is a prioritized program that addresses nitrate pollution in groundwater by focusing on the areas in the Valley most critically impacted, followed by lower priority areas. Permittees have the choice to follow an individual permitting approach with more stringent requirements or choose to participate in a collective stakeholder-led effort, the management zone permitting approach, (or Path B). The Salt Control Program is a phased program to address salinity impacts to both surface and groundwater. For the first phase of the Salt Control Program, permittees are again provided the option to choose one of two pathways. The first is a conservative permitting approach which requires stringent salinity limitations or choose participation in an alternative region-wide stakeholder-led effort to develop a long-term, sustainable salt management strategy.

The original Salt and Nitrate Control Program Basin Plan Amendments were adopted by the Central Valley Water Board in 2018. When the Amendments were brought to the State Water Board in November 2019, they were approved with the condition that targeted revisions needed to be made within the next year. Those revisions pertained to overarching Program goals, as well as specific clarifications to the Nitrate Control Program's Early Action Plans and Policies regarding offsets, exceptions, variances, and drone conservation. The revisions Basin Plan Amendments were adopted by the Central Valley Water Board in December 2020 and approved by State Water Board in June 2021. The Office of Administrative Law approved the amendments in November 2021. The Amendments were also sent to U.S. EPA for review. In March of 2022, U.S. EPA acknowledged the changes to the Basin Plan and agreed their approval was not needed. November 2021 is the Amendment's effective date.

The Salt Control Program seeks to address salt accumulations in surface and ground water through a phased approach. Phase 1 applies to all dischargers of salt across the Central Valley Region. Over 3,000 notice to comply letters were sent in January 2021 with a due date to respond by mid-July 2021. Today, there are over 3,100 active permittees in the Salt Control Program. 89% selected the alternative pathway and are financially supporting the Phase 1 P&O Study. These include permittees in the NPDES Program, Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program, Non-15 (non-hazardous discharges to land) Program, Confined Animal Facilities Program, and Oil Fields Program. About 1% of the permittees chose the conservative pathway. Enforcement staff is working on getting the other 10% who did not file a Notice of Intent to select a compliance pathway. The purpose of the P&O study is to establish a long-term and sustainable salt management strategy that can be executed in phases two and three of the Salt Control Program (project development and project implementation phases). The P&O study will lead to future regulatory actions and includes coordination with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Additionally, the P&O study will define salt sensitive hydrologic regions and identify salinity sources and impacts, as well as evaluate and prioritize the conceptual project for long term salt management. It will also establish a governance structure and funding plan. Ultimately, it will develop recommendations for Phase 2 of the Salt Control Program. In March 2021, the Central Valley Water Board approved the P&O study work plan submitted by the Central Valley Salinity Coalition, who is serving as the lead entity.

Critical to this effort is using the most current and interconnected data models based on the best available science. Ms. Walters reviewed the model which will be used to complete a region-wide baseline salinity characterization report to help identify and evaluate future salinity scenarios for long term sustainability in the Central Valley.

As it relates to the Nitrate Control Program, Ms. Walters showed a map of priority areas and explained over 1,200 Priority 1 Notice to Comply letters were sent in May 2020. The next priority areas will receive Notice to Comply letters in 2023. The remaining areas will be phased in as needed (after the Priority 1 and 2 areas). Many communities in the Central Valley (often in disadvantaged areas) have drinking water wells above safe drinking water standards for nitrate. Even if all discharges of nitrate were ceased today, it would take many decades before those groundwater supplies could meet objectives. Therefore, the top priority of the Nitrate Control Program is to provide safe drinking water supplies in the short and long term to people impacted by nitrate pollution. The longer-term strategy is to address ongoing discharges and determine how those discharges will meet water quality standards, followed by aquifer restoration where feasible. Of the 1,200 active permittees in the Nitrate Control Program, 93% selected the management zone pathway, approximately 1% of permittees chose the individual pathway, and approximately 6% did not file a Notice of Intent indicating their compliance pathway.

After the first Notice to Comply letters were distributed, management zones developed preliminary management zone proposals. These proposals included information on boundaries, a technical review of nitrate conditions, a list of participation, and Early Action Plans. These plans described how management zones would implement well testing and provide safe drinking water to those impacted residents. Implementation of those Early Action Plans began 60 days after submission to the Board in May 2021.

Sarah Rutherford, Executive Director, Kaweah Water Foundation, continued the presentation by stating she would be speaking on behalf of the five management zones. Priority 1 areas collectively worked together to provide a summary of outreach efforts. Not all management zones approached community engagement the same way because of the broad geography and diverse demographics.

Ms. Rutherford reviewed year one and two Early Action Plan statistics. These efforts include post cards and flyers, one-on-one discussions, radio, television, newspaper, social media, road sign promotions, websites, meetings, and events. Currently, 900 households receive bottled water delivered to their door each month (provided by management zones). The quantity delivered is dependent upon household size. If the household needs more, staff will work with the vendors to meet the need. Participation for inquiries, applications, well testing, and bottled water deliveries has increased and continues to increase. In addition to the bottled water delivery, some management zones have free water filling kiosk stations which provide clean drinking water and cooking water equal to approximately 440 households each month. No screening criteria is needed for these water fill stations. They are open to the public and quantity is not limited. Most are open 24 hours a day.

Ms. Rutherford reviewed a website example from the Chowchilla Management Zone and noted visitors could access information in Spanish and English. Websites were a large hub of activity and served as a convenient resource for community members to learn more about Programs. Visitors can get more information and see if their home is within a management zone boundary. The public is available to apply online through fillable forms located on the website. Some management zones include a chat feature, calendar of events, and other community information. Ms. Rutherford reviewed several creative community engagement events used by the management zones to increase enrollments. By participating in local community events, staff demonstrate they are invested in delivering the message in a personal and efficient manner. Additionally, it allows for direct communication (in English or Spanish) in explaining the ease of the application process and how to get free bottled water delivery. One example of such an event was the Tule Basin Management Zone located in southern Tulare County. They recently partnered with Tulare County Alpaca and Tipton branches to educate and speak with students and parents about safe drinking water options. Children enjoyed a hands-on activity on how wells work as they added a simulation of rainwater to the soil and gravel, watched the well fill up, and then filtered the water as it made its way into the home. By participating in centrally located rural community outreach events (such as the library service series), it provided vital information for families. At another community event, the Valley Water Collaborative Management Zone recently invited high school students to participate in an art contest to creatively design and illustrate water dispenser jugs. Local elected officials reviewed entries and the top three awarded participants shared \$3,000 in prizes. The art displays are now a key part of community outreach events at farmers markets, fairs, and other community events.

Ms. Rutherford further stated the King's Water Alliance (which covers portions of Tulare County, Fresno County, and Kings County) recently completed a three-month campaign where a portion of the service area was saturated using multiple lines of communication. The Alliance utilized water quality and demographic data to identify nitrate impacted residents, and

employed widespread outreach through direct mailers, emails, canvassing, workshops, webinars, social, and traditional media channels to build trust with residents. There was an average of 12% growth in eligibility surveys for the free bottled water delivery program. The Kings Water Alliance campaign was recently recognized by the Association of California Water Agencies and received the 2022 Excellence in Communication Award.

The Kaweah Water Foundation recently launched a social media campaign. 34 unique posts resulted in more than 11,000 views, 165 interactions, and 160 click throughs direct to the website. One year ago, staff was not seeing click throughs to the website. For the month of November 2022, 65 unique users found the website via social media. The Foundation has been using creative and unique messaging, such as “soup season is upon us, make sure your water is safe to cook with,” “boiled water may still be unsafe,” or “do you know where your water comes from?” These targeted messages to residents allow staff to select a specific geography and provide relatable content that is easily shared with friends and family.

Coordination of management zones and the State Water Board's Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) is vital to reaching Program goals. Ms. Rutherford commented she was grateful for the assistance from DFA staff. Valley Water Collaborative worked with DFA on an agreement for SAFER funds. The Collaborative received initial approval in December 2021, and signed the final contract in September 2022. Today, Valley Water Collaborative efforts include 234 wells tested for co-contaminants, 88 wells tested for nitrate plus co-contaminants, and 33 wells were found to have co-contaminants only, with no nitrate contamination. Households with contaminants are currently provided free bottled water. There are 330 households in total being served via SAFER funds. The Kaweah Water Foundation submitted an application and proposed budget and are working diligently with DFA staff. The Foundation hoped to receive approval as soon as January 2023. Tule Management Zone and King's Water Alliance both received approval from their respective Boards to submit a SAFER application. The Chowchilla Management Zone has a grant through Madera County and is also testing for co-contaminants.

Ms. Walters stated in 2019, the ILRP began rolling out their phased requirement for nitrate monitoring of drinking water wells on enrolled coalition parcels. These participants report their results to GeoTracker and may be provided replacement drinking water if the nitrate results are above the threshold of 10 milligrams per liter. Ms. Walters reviewed a map showing the wells that overlapped with Priority 1 management zone areas that had been tested for nitrate as part of the ILRP. Additionally, Ms. Walters reviewed a breakdown of estimated totals for Priority 1 wells tested and the number of wells above the nitrate standard. The estimated number of domestic wells tested by both Programs in the Priority 1 areas was over 7,700 with almost 3,000 of those above the nitrate standard. These totals show that domestic wells have been tested in Priority 1 areas. However, it is important to note the ILRP program (unlike the management zones) does not target high risk areas. More work is needed to make a good estimate of the total number of high-risk wells and the associated users in these Priority 1 areas. Without a reliable estimate of the wells in high-risk areas, it can be hard to gauge program effectiveness as it relates to targeted sampling. CV-SALTS program staff have been coordinating with ILRP staff to further refine these well testing numbers and staff will continue to work with both the ILRP and the management zones in 2023.

Nitrate Control Program final management zone proposals were due in August 2022 and contained an assessment of water quality conditions in the management of a final governance plan and list of management zone participants. Upon acceptance by the Central Valley Water Board, the management zones have six months to submit a Management Zone Implementation Plan.

Currently, 90% of the permittees in the Salt Control Program are complying, The remaining 10% have not selected a compliance pathway. This is a 2% decrease from Summer 2022. At the Summer update, the number of facilities was almost 400, and the number is now 300. Enforcement staff have been busy reaching out to these permittees, answering questions, and helping them submit their Notice of Intent. In the Nitrate Control Program, 94% of permittees are complying. The remaining 6% have not selected a compliance pathway. At the Summer update, the number of facilities on this list was almost 100, and the number is now 71. This is a significant decrease in a short period of time. For those permittees who do not select a pathway, enforcement staff will pursue administrative civil liability to those that present a significant threat to water quality. There is a focus on dischargers in disadvantaged communities and the Board will pursue violations. Additional information on enforcement activities is available in the Executive Officer Reports.

### **Comments from Interested Persons**

J.P. Cativiela, Dairy Representative, stated he was happy to support this Program. His team actively participates in management zone meetings to ensure success and share ideas. He expressed his gratitude to everyone that came together with a commitment to make this Program a success. Mr. Cativiela admired the fact these participants were solving a problem in society and he was happy to invest in them and support their work. Lastly, he stated he has every confidence this Program is already a success and will only get more successful over time.

Perry Klassen, Valley Water Collaborative, stated Ms. Rutherford provided an excellent overview of the management zones and their efforts. He stated he appreciated the hard work and collaboration that was occurring and felt this was the most unique and challenging Program he had ever been involved with. On program launch day, 4,000 postcards were sent to residences identified in disadvantaged communities and high nitrate areas. By engaging the press and media, a rash of applications were received. At the beginning of the year, they began tracking where the applications were coming from. It provided useful information as to how people were hearing about this effort. The highest response came from conversations with friends, families, and neighbors, followed by newspaper articles. Social media and participation in community events was also proving to be successful. Over 400 doors had been personally knocked on. In some cases, it took well owners/tenants seeing Valley Water Collaborative staff at multiple community events to finally fill out an application and engage with these individuals. Staff was working diligently to reach the more rural individuals. One barrier to the SAFER grant is the income limitations for those that need a treatment system. The team sent over 1,000 flyers to businesses in the Modesto/Turlock area (libraries, gas stations, grocery stores, tractor dealers, auto part stores, coffee shops, hardware stores, etc.). Mr. Klassen mentioned since the SAFER Program started, the largest non-nitrate contaminant

is uranium. He felt more transparency was needed from the State Water Board on this contaminant. Mr. Klassen closed by stating he appreciated all the work from his staff and others that have come together to solve these important water quality issues.

Chair Bradford thanked Mr. Klassen for his comments.

David Cory, San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority/Central Valley Salinity Coalition Chair, wished to compliment Ms. Walters and Ms. Rutherford on their excellent presentation. It represented a lot of work from the management zones, Executive Committee, and those who brought these efforts together. Mr. Cory stated he appreciated the discussions related to the management zones and the P&O study in the Salt Control Program. Despite the many CV-SALTS meetings he participated in, he learned a lot from the interaction and questions from the Board and the presenters in terms of what the management zones were doing. Questions from the Board were helpful in allowing them to understand what the Board was focused on. Mr. Cory closed by stating he commended staff and the Board for the interactive nature of the Board Meeting.

Kjia Rivers, Community Water Center, indicated she would be providing public comment on behalf of Community Water Center, Clean Water Action, and Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability. Ms. Rivers stated she appreciated the opportunity to comment, and commended outreach efforts of the management zones. However, there were four areas of concern. After two years since inception, the Program had only tested 10% of potential impacted wells. Up to 13,000 households may be consuming contaminated water. These numbers were from the recent management zone summary reports. Ms. Rivers stated it was critical that management zones reflect the urgency of this problem and be proactive in reaching out to these residents. More resources must be channeled towards having dedicated persons to conduct culturally appropriate and effective door to door outreach, and emphasized these are supposed to be "Early Action Plans." She asked what the Board planned on doing to ensure those 13,000 households had safe water this year. Secondly, as management zone implementation plans were being drafted, impacted residents must be engaged in the process to address the contamination they have to live with every day. Residents must be part of those discussions regarding when and how dischargers will reduce their nitrate discharges to protect drinking water. Communities need to see long-term drinking water solutions and concrete restoration plans for public groundwater basins. Additionally, Ms. Rivers commented they were glad to see Valley Water Collaborative Management Zone finalized a co-contaminant testing agreement with the SAFER Program and that Chowchilla Management Zone was already testing for other contaminants. However, the agreement took well over a year to finalize. This must happen for other management zones and must happen much more quickly. This was important because households seemed to be aware of contaminants (other than nitrate) in their water that negatively impacted health. Ms. Rivers further stated they were glad to see conversations were occurring with the ILRP. However, they would like to see the integration of well testing data from the ILRP and CV-SALTS Program. Ms. Rivers closed by stating they requested the Regional Water Board ensure this data is integrated by management zones to conduct better outreach.

Chair Bradford and EO Pulupa thanked Ms. Rivers for her comments. EO Pulupa responded Ms. River's points were valid and they would be considered as the Board implements this Program. Management zones tested closer to 15-20% (depending on the area of the wells). As Ms. Walters numbers showed, when testing within the ILRP and adding those numbers to the management zones, the number was much higher than 10%. However, there is no precise overlap between the ILRP data and management zone information, which causes a data gap. While there are a good number of wells to be reached, it is not 90%. Those numbers will be higher when that data is integrated. Currently, ILRP well testing data is available to the public on GeoTracker. The Water Board is working on ensuring this data is integrated as staff moved forward with the deployment of the CV-SALTS Nitrate Control Program. This is captured in the Regional Racial Equity Resolution and Priority Projects. The top priority for the CV-SALTS Program and Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program is integrated data.

Vice Chair Kadara commented we were in the infancy of this Program and continued progress was forthcoming. She wished to encourage the work to move forward and commented staff may want to review the wording on the communication pieces to ensure it was capturing recipient's attention. Possibly an alert or something that triggered them to respond. Vice Chair Kadara was looking forward to seeing the numbers continually improve because we still have communities with contaminated water. Ms. Rutherford responded the Kings Water Alliance recently tried different messaging in tandem to see what might be more effective. When this outreach began, COVID was a human health crisis that took a lot of attention and bandwidth. Now that everyone is not responding to COVID, there is more time and space for people to focus on public health issues.

Daniel Cozad, Central Valley Salinity Coalition, stated he was available to answer any questions from the Board. He appreciated Ms. Walters time and efforts and felt the CV-SALTS Program would not be where it is today without the efforts from her and her staff. Ms. Walters thanked Mr. Cozad and mentioned she wished to thank her staff, the Central Valley Salinity Coalition, and the Board for their support.

EO Patrick closed by offering his gratitude to Ms. Walters and her staff for the contributions made to the CV-SALTS Program. Although Ms. Walters was promoted and would be taking on a new role as the Program Lead for the NPDES Program, he was grateful she was still with us.

### **Questions and Comments from Board Members**

Chair Bradford asked if staff knew the number of private wells that had rental occupants. He expressed concern that tenants would not have an opportunity to participate if private well owners choose not to have the wells tested. Ms. Rutherford responded that postcards and mailers were sent directly to the household, not the registered owner. Most management zones were using direct USPS mailers which go directly to each household. A lot of discussions were taking place between the management zones to determine the difference between the number of inquiries, well tests, and enrollments. Therefore, staff was working diligently to quantify those numbers. Ms. Rutherford noted landowners were asked to sign a permission agreement to enter the property and test the well. To her knowledge, there had not been any landowners deny these requests. In cases where there is hesitancy on the part of the

landowner, staff was careful to manage the communication to the landowner. Postcards are provided in English and Spanish, and staff was careful to refine communications and workshops to have clear language and graphics that are easily understood. Management zones are even using QR codes on communication pieces that refer the resident directly to the website with all contact information.

Chair Bradford asked if staff had an approximate idea of what percentage of homes in the management zones were reached relative to the number of potentially impacted wells. Ms. Rutherford responded preliminary management zone proposals identified the number of potentially impacted wells. Although she did not bring those numbers, she did have that number and would provide it. Chair Bradford commended their creative approach to gain enrollments (particularly schools and libraries).

Chair Bradford noted 94% of the people who received a Notice to Comply responded one way or another, and wanted to know what was happening with the 6% that did not. Ms. Walters responded staff was diligent about sharing information on those participating and those that were not. It was being communicated to well owners that refusal to participate would result in civil liabilities and a trip to the Board to explain their refusal. To date, there were no refusals encountered.

Chair Bradford also thanked Ms. Walters and Ms. Rutherford for their presentation and summarizing a complex Program.

Vice Chair Kadara asked if informational material was included with water bills. Ms. Rutherford responded that was discussed, but staff did not want to confuse residents that had clean drinking water. EO Pulupa commented non-domestic wells fell under the purview of the Division of Drinking Water, who often had enforcement orders placed on those communities to rectify the nitrate impairment on their own.

Vice Chair Kadara commented Ms. Walters and Ms. Rutherford did an excellent job of packaging and delivering the presentation. Further, Vice Chair Kadara thanked and congratulated Ms. Walters for the work that had been accomplished under her leadership.

EO Pulupa congratulated all who worked on this endeavor and stated the success thus far was largely, in part, due to everyone's creativity with outreach efforts.

Member Yang asked if there were any other drinking water programs like the Central Valley Water Boards that existed. Ms. Rutherford said yes. As an example, Self-Help Enterprises had large Drought Assistance and Clean Drinking Water Programs. Member Yang asked how long it took to perform the well testing and receive results. Ms. Rutherford replied it depended upon if co-contaminant testing was performed because that took an additional amount of time. For nitrate only testing, a field person can usually get out the next week from the date the application is received (schedules must be coordinated with the resident). Once the well has been tested, the lab will notify staff within 48 hours via phone if it exceeds the safe drinking water standard. If it does not exceed the standard, those results come a bit later. Labs are

mandated to let us know within the 48 hours. Member Yang thanked staff for their work in this phenomenal program.

Member Lee Reeder congratulated staff on the ACWA Award. She mentioned she looked at the social media numbers and it was clear there was geofencing and micro targeting involved, which was great because she felt the message was not wasted. Member Lee Reeder indicated she appreciated the flexibility for applicants to carve out their own strategy because every community communicates differently.

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**AGENDA ITEM 19 – CITY OF TRACY, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY – CONSIDERATION OF NPDES PERMIT RENEWAL (NPDES PERMIT NO. CA0079154)**

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Chair Bradford stated this was the time and place for a hearing to consider the renewal of the City of Tracy, Wastewater Treatment Plant, San Joaquin County.

There were no comments from the City of Tracy.

There were no legal issues to discuss.

Adam Laputz, Assistant Executive Officer, stated late comments were received and accepted by staff and entered the late comments (received 6 December 2022) into the record. As a result of the late comments, revisions to the NPDES Permit were made. Toxicity limits were removed from the Permit, and a trigger for toxicity and monitoring were added back in.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT LATE COMMENTS FROM THE CITY OF TRACY**

Motioned: Member Lee Reeder

Seconded: Member Yang

Roll Call Vote:

Member Yang	Yes
Member Brar	Yes
Member Lee Reeder	Yes
Vice Chair Kadara	Yes
Chair Bradford	Yes

Approved by Roll Call Vote of 5-0-0

**MOTION TO APPROVE RENEWAL OF NPDES PERMIT NO. CA0079154, CITY OF TRACY, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY, WITH LATE REVISIONS**

Motioned: Vice Chair Kadara

Seconded: Member Yang

Roll Call Vote:

Member Yang	Yes
Member Brar	Yes
Member Lee Reeder	Yes
Vice Chair Kadara	Yes
Chair Bradford	Yes

Approved by Roll Call Vote of 5-0-0

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**AGENDA ITEM 20 – CITY OF ARVIN, ARVIN WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY, KERN COUNTY – CONSIDERATION OF TENTATIVE CEASE-AND-DESIST ORDER R5-2022-XXXX**

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This item will be heard at a future Board Meeting.

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**AGENDA ITEM 11.b. – CITY OF MADERA, MADERA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY, MADERA COUNTY – CONSIDERATION OF REVISED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS. ORDER NO. 95-046**

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This item was moved from Thursday’s agenda.

Chair Bradford stated this was the time and place for a hearing to consider the renewal of the City of Madera, Madera Wastewater Treatment Facility, Madera County.

There were no comments from the City of Madera.

There were no legal issues to discuss.

There were no late revisions or staff comments.

The Board proceeded with the record submitted.

EO Pulupa thanked staff for their efforts on the uncontested Permits.

**MOTION TO CONSIDER REVISED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CITY OF MADERA, MADERA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY, MADERA COUNTY**

Motioned: Member Lee Reeder  
Seconded: Vice Chair Kadara

Roll Call Vote:

Member Yang	Yes
Member Brar	Yes
Member Lee Reeder	Yes

Vice Chair Kadara            Yes  
Chair Bradford                Yes

Approved by Roll Call Vote of 5-0-0

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**MEETING ADJOURNED**

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The Board Meeting adjourned at 12:29 p.m. to the 23-24 February 2023 Board Meeting.